



For Immediate Release

Division of Elections to Receive Recall Application

September 5, 2019 (Juneau, AK) – Today the Division of Elections (Division) anticipates submission of a recall application from the Recall Dunleavy committee.

The recall petition application review process is clearly outlined in Alaska Statutes 15.45.500-15.45.550. In the case of recall, the certification decision falls to the Director of the Division of Elections. The Director must determine the following under AS 15.45.550:

1. the application is substantially in the required form;
2. the application was filed within the statutory time frame;
3. the application applies to a person subject to recall; and
4. the application has a sufficient number of signatures from qualified voters.

The Division of Elections will begin the signature verification and will request a legal opinion from the Department of Law to determine whether the grounds for recall listed in the application meet the legal requirements.

The Division is requesting the Department of Law to have its legal review done in 60 days. Although the recall statutes do not provide a deadline for reviewing the application, the Division historically has treated recall applications similar to initiative applications and completed the review in the same timeframe. This timeframe provides both the Division and the Department of Law a reasonable amount of time for verification of the signatures and a thorough legal review. As this recall involves a statewide elected office, and not a House or Senate district, the review process is expected to take longer to verify the signatures, let alone the legal review.

According to Director Gail Fenumiai, the Division will be applying the same level of due diligence to this application as has been the case with all applications.

Additional information on the recall process can be found on the division's website at: <http://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/petitionrecallprocess.php>

For questions regarding the legal review process, please contact Assistant Attorney General Cori Mills at cori.mills@alaska.gov or (907) 465-2132.

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